

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A power control apparatus in a foldable portable radio terminal which includes a main body, a sub-body, a key-pad including a power key on the main body,
 5 an external function key which can be key-inputted by a user even if the sub-body is closed onto the main body, said power control apparatus comprising:

a first switch;

a second switch; and

a control unit for controlling said first and second switches according to a
 10 powered-on/off state of the terminal;

wherein one end of each of said first switch and said second switch is connected in common at a first node connected to the external function key and the other end of said first switch is connected to a first input end of said control unit, and the other end of said second switch and the power key are connected in common via a
 15 second node connected to a second input end of said control unit.

2. A power control apparatus in a foldable portable radio terminal according to claim 1, wherein said control unit controls said first switch open and said second switch closed in the powered-off state of the terminal; and controls said first
 20 switch closed and said second switch open in the powered-on state of the terminal.

3. A power control apparatus in a portable radio terminal which can be folded in an automatic and manual manner and includes a main body, a sub-body, a key-pad including a power key on the main body, and an automatic sub-body switch for
 25 automatic sub-body opening/closing in a position where a user can key-input even if the sub-body is closed onto the main body, said power control apparatus comprising:

a first switch;

a second switch; and

a control unit for controlling said first and second switches according to a powered-on/off state of the terminal;

wherein one end of each of said first switch and said second switch is connected in common at a first node connected to the automatic sub-body switch and the other end of said first switch is connected to a first input end of said control unit, and the other end of said second switch and the power key are connected in common at a second node connected to a second input end of said control unit.

4. A power control apparatus in a portable radio terminal according to claim 3, wherein said control unit controls said first switch open and said second switch closed in the powered-off state of the terminal; and controls said first switch closed and said second switch open in the powered-on state of the terminal.

5. A power control apparatus in a portable radio terminal, comprising:
an external function key located in an accessible key input position by a user;
a power key for controlling power; and
a unit for controlling the portable radio terminal to be powered on in response to a key input from either said external function key or said power key when the portable radio terminal is powered-off and controlling a function of the portable radio terminal to be performed in response to a key input from either said external function key or said power key when the portable radio terminal is powered-on.